Saijaku Muhai no Bahamut

by AKATSUKI Senri & WATANABE Itsuki & TADAURA Fumi

Chapter 18

STAFF
TRANSLATOR: ELDYNAMITE
CLEANERS: DARKHELLSING
PROOFREADER: SAMISHII
TYPESETTER: TRINITYFOX
QUALITY CHECK: CLOUD94

#OneTime@irc.irchighway.net
#catscans@irc.irchighway.net
www.otscans.com
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キャラクター原案:春日歩

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<<FREEZING CANNON!?>>

CAN KRULCIFER WIN THIS TWO-ON-ONE...?

CHAPTER 18: DUEL

HMM.

ドドド

WHAT MIGHT YOU BE SPEAKING OF?

IS THIS YOUR DOING, ALTÉRISE?

!!

MS. ALTÉRISE!

HAHAHA!

<<DEVIL'S GLOW!>>

<<BLADE!>>

YOU'VE LEFT AN OPENING, MY LADY.

!!

GAH ...

<<AUTO SHIELD!>>

A UNIQUE ABILITY BY WHICH

HER EQUIPMENT AUTOMATICALLY MOVES TO PROTECT HER ...

.....

How TROUBLE-SOME...

.....

LOOKS LIKE... I'LL HAVE TO BET ON IT.

AT THIS RATE, I'LL LOSE A BATTLE OF ATTRITION.

FOR THEM TO ATTACK IN TANDEM ...

<<FREEZING CANNON!>>

!!

DAMN!

INTERESTING.

YOU KNOW AJI DAHAKA SPECIALIZES IN GROUND COMBAT, AND YET YOU APPROACH...
HMM ...

IF WE TRADE BLOWS, I WILL WIN.

<<WISE BLOOD!>>

THAT IS.

IF WE TRADE BLOWS,

THIS POWER WILL ALLOW ME...

TO SEE A FEW SECONDS AHEAD INTO THE FUTURE!

AS LONG AS I HAVE THIS DIVINE DRESS...

YOUR ATTACKS ...

WILL NOT CONNECT!

SHE DODGED ...?

NO...

SHE COUNTERED WITH FREEZING CANNON!

IN RESPONSE TO MY ATTACK ...

WELL DONE, KRULCIFER.

IT COULD USE SOME IMPROVEMENT, BUT THAT SKILL THAT TOOK DOWN MY RIGHT SHOULDER IS WONDERFUL.

TOO LATE.

<<WISE BLOOD!>>

LORD BALSERID! MOVE AWAY!

THAT DISTANCE IS DANGEROUS!

BUT...

IS IT ENOUGH TO DEFEAT ME?

<<WISE BLOOD>>
...

WHAT ...?

DISAPPEAR

<<AUTO SHIELD>>!

HI?

I MUST RESTRAIN MYSELF SOMEWHAT
OH, APOLOGIES.
THAT IS, AFTER ALL, THE BODY THAT SHALL BIRTH MY CHILD.
ズル
ズル
GAH!
UGH...
ACK
...
NO
...
THIS IS...
ALITO SHIELD WAS BROKEN ...?
.....!!

BUT THIS TIME...

MY ENERGY AND FORTITUDE HAVEN'T RUN OUT YET!

MY DRAG-KNIGHT'S POWER OUTPUT IS DOWN?!

JUST LIKE AT THE RUIN...

MOVE ...!

MOVE ...

MOVE ...

UGH...

GAH...!

IT'S PAINFUL TO WATCH ...

!!

DO NOT DISAPPOINT ME,

MY FUTURE WIFE.

YOU WOULD NOT WASTE TIME STRUGGLING TO NO END.

OR SO I BELIEVED.

?

HAHA...

HA...

YOUR LITTLE PLOT SUCCEEDED SO WELL, AFTER ALL.

DISAPPOINT YOU?

SHOULDN'T YOU BE HAPPY?

WHAT IS LORD BALSERIO DOING...?

YOU'VE MADE MY DIVINE DRESS UNABLE TO FUNCTION.

AND THOSE BANDITS WHO ATTACKED US WITH DRAG-KNIGHTS?

FOR THEM TO HAVE ENTERED SUCH A WEALTHY DISTRICT, THEY'D HAVE NEEDED THE INFLUENCE OF A POWERFUL PERSON...

MOST LIKELY ...

YOU ACCOMPANIED US ON THE RUIN INVESTIGATION TO FIND OUT THE EXTENT OF MY ABILITY.

IF SO...

HAVING SEEN FAFNIR'S ABILITY THERE WOULD SAVE YOU TIME HERE.

WAS IT NOT YOURS?

HA!

ズ!!

YOU'VE DONE WELL TO FIGURE OUT THAT MUCH!

AS EXPECTED OF THE "KEY TO THE RUINS"!

GAH ...

I HEARD THAT YOU WERE ABLE TO LAY BARE THE SECRETS OF THE RUINS,

AND SO I APPROACHED THAT BUTLER WITH AN ENGAGEMENT.

IT'S JUST AS YOU SAY.

THAT'S RIGHT.

HOW DO YOU KNOW THAT ...?!

EVERYTHING WAS PLANNED BY ME.

CALLING THAT ABYSS BEFORE THE RUIN;

HIRING THOSE BANDITS;

YOU ARE ONLY A TOOL TO THAT END.

YOU WILL BE UNABLE TO DO ANYTHING, EVEN KNOWING THIS TRUTH.

ONE DAY I SHALL STAND AT THE PEAK OF THIS COUNTRY.

BUT,

AS I GATHER ALL THE TECHNOLOGY AND RICHES OF THE RUINS,

YOU CANNOT CHANGE A SINGLE PART OF THIS REALITY

IN THIS WORLD IN WHICH YOU ARE NOTHING BUT A TOOL!

ACCEPT IT!

IT IS YOUR DESTINY TO SERVE ME, YOUR MASTER!

I WAS PICKED UP BY THE EINFOLK AS A SURVIVOR OF THE RUINS

I PUT ALL MY EFFORTS INTO BUILDING REAL FAMILIAL BONDS...

AH...

"TOOL"

BUT THE MORE HONOR I GAINED,

THE FARTHER AWAY THE IDEAL OF FAMILY GREW...

NO, THAT'S WRONG.

GREW FARTHER AWAY?

I NEVER HAD IT TO BEGIN WITH.

!!

IS THAT...

A DAGGER?

WHO'S THERE?!

OUTSIDERS

...

SHOULDN'T INTERFERE!

<<RELOAD ON FIRE.>>

WHA-?!

WH—

WHY...?

AS OF THE CURRENT MOMENT, I'LL BE PARTICIPATING IN THIS BATTLE.

I'LL BE YOUR OPPONENT, LUX ARCADIA.

SORRY FOR BEING LATE.

WHY DID YOU EQUIP BAHAMUT AND COME?!

NOW THEY'LL KNOW --

HAHAHA ...

HA HAHA HA!

NO!

I DON'T WANT TO INVOLVE YOU IN THIS ANY FURTHER!

IT SEEMS I'VE UNDER-ESTIMATED YOU!

I ASSUMED YOU WOULD RUN!

TO THINK YOU'D REVEAL YOUR TRUE IDENTITY TO SAVE SOME WOMAN...

YOU'RE MORE FOOLISH THAN I THOUGHT... NO...

YOU'RE JUST PRETENDING TO HAVE THE STATURE OF A HERO!

"BLACK HERO"!

IT COULDN'T BE!

THAT BOY?!

"BLACK HERO" ...?!

I'LL HAVE TO REFUSE, LORD BALSERID.

AND THIS WOMAN OFFERS YOU NO BENEFIT.

END THIS POINTLESS RESISTANCE.

YOU WILL WOUND AND TIRE YOURSELF FIGHTING,

WHAT ...?

YOU DON'T UNDERSTAND A THING ABOUT HER WORTH.

LEAVE HIM TO ME!

THIS IS A FORMAL TWO-ON-TWO FIGHT!

P-PLEASE WAIT, LORD BALSERIO!

I CAN STILL --

I'D LIKE YOU TO LEAVE THIS MATTER IN MY HANDS.

MS. ALTÉRISE,

WHAT —

!!?

W-WHY IS THIS HAP-PEN-ING?!

THE DRAG-KNIGHT SYSTEM ...

AND WHAT IS THIS ...

FEELING ...?

AGH...

ALTÉRISE!

HMM ...?

I SEE NOW...

THAT'S HOW IT WAS.

ORIGINALLY,

THERE WAS A BOY WHO HAD A LOW APTITUDE FOR DRAG-KNIGHTS, BUT SOMEHOW POWERFUL ENDURANCE.

I'VE HEARD RUMORS OF THE "CONQUEROR OF KINGDOMS"

ALONG WITH TALES OF YOUR VALOR.

But without a high aptitude level, one will quickly run out of energy piloting a Drag-Knight.

Its energy consumption is large.

More so for a Divine Dress...

!

You couldn't be saying ...?!

That's right.

He's been sucking out energy

from Drag-Knights and people around him.

AND HOW YOU DEFEATED THE ABYSS

THAT EXPLAINS WHY A FOLLOWER SUCH AS YOU WAS UNABLE TO USE HER DIVINE DEITY OUTSIDE THE RUIN.

THAT TIME, YOU...

STOLE FARNE'S DIVINE DEITY--

YOU STOLE WISE BLOOD-- AND USED IT

That is the true form of Avesta...

Aji Dahaka's Divine Dress.

Am I wrong?

.....

Just by being in the vicinity, you could steal energy from others.

And by touching them, you could even steal their Divine Dress abilities.

!!

HM.

YOUR INSIGHT IS WELL TRAINED.

I MUST PRAISE YOUR ABILITY TO SEE THROUGH ALL THIS.

BUT...

EVEN KNOWING THIS, YOU CANNOT DEFEAT ME!

!!

IN THAT WEAKENED POSITION, THEY WON'T BE ABLE TO BLOCK THIS.

WELL, I GUESS IT DOESN'T REALLY MATTER-

IF HER ARMS AND LEGS ARE A LITTLE HURT.

!!

<<DEVIL'S GLOW!>>

GAH ...

YOU FELL FOR IT, BLACK HERO.

!!

<<WIRE TAIL!>>

OUR DRAG-KNIGHTS ...

HAVE COME INTO CONTACT!

TCH ...

NO...!

<<RELOAD
ON FIRE>>

<<RELOAD
ON...

HUFF
HUFF

LUX-
KUN!

……
!!

HAHA-
HAHA!

THIS
POWER IS
AMAZING!

IF YOU
ACKNOWLEDGE
DEFEAT AND
BEG FOR YOUR
LIFE...

I'LL
SPARE
YOU.

OH FAKE
PRINCE, OH
PRETENDER
HERO,

IF YOU
CONTINUE
TO FIGHT,
YOU WILL DIE.
IS THAT ALL
RIGHT?

THAT'S A LIE.

ガラ

YOU'D SETTLE THE ENGAGEMENT, AND ALTÉRISE WOULD RETURN.

THEN YOU'D ASSASSINATE ME VIA YOUR SUBORDINATES.

WHAT ...?

TO ENSURE

YOU WOULDN'T BLOODY YOUR HANDS

AND THAT YOU WOULDN'T HAVE TO DO IT YOURSELF.

I'M SICK OF YOU, BALSERID.

THAT WAY OF DOING THINGS IS JUST LIKE THAT OF THE ROYAL FAMILY OF THE OLD EMPIRE.

HAHA ... I SEE ...

INTERESTING ...!

FINE, BLACK HERO!

AMUSE ME WITH YOUR VAIN STRUGGLE!

WHAT CAN YOU DO IN THIS SITUATION ?!

WHY
...
WON'T YOU RUN?

THAT'S ONE OF MY BROTHER'S STRONG POINTS, AS WELL AS ONE OF HIS WEAK ONES.

PLEASE KEEP IT DOWN, KRULCIFER.
!!
YOU'RE ...!

AND THEN...

KEEP WATCHING OVER

JUST WAIT A LITTLE BIT LONGER.

NOW IS THE TIME FOR HIM TO EXACT HIS PLAN.

THIS BATTLE FOUGHT FOR YOUR SAKE ...

WHAT COULD LUX'S PLAN BE...? NEXT ISSUE, THE DUEL TO THE DEATH IS SETTLED!